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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /057 W
----------170811Z 062891 /17/60
R 141714Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2768
INFO ALL EC CAPS 2980

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 0389

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y TEXT PARA 1

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EC, TU
SUBJECT: PROMINENT TURKISH SENATOR CALLS FOR INSTITUTIONALIZED
EC-TURKEY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

SENATOR KAMRAN INAN, CHAIRMAN OF TURKISH SENATE'S FOREIGN
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND PRESIDENT OF TURKEY'S PARLIAMENTARY
COMMITTEE, LED 18-MEMBER TURKISHPARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION
TO LUXEMBOURG JANUARY 10-11 FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH
VARIOUS EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT POLITICAL GROUPS AND EC
COMMISSION OFFICIALS ON TURKEY'S RELATIONS WITH THE EC
(WHICH, AS USUAL, INEVITABLY SPILLED OVER INTO TURKISH
GRIEVANCE TOWARD GREECE REGARDING CYPRUS AND THE AEGEAN).
FOLLOWING THESE DISCUSSIONS, SENATOR IANAN TOLD THE PRESS
THAT EC-TURKISH RELATIONS MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO DETERIORATE
AS A RESULT OF FORTHCOMING GREEK ACCESSION TO THE
COMMUNITY AND SAID THAT TO OFFSET GREEK INFLUENCE IN THE
COMMUNITY, EC-TURKISH POLILICAL CONSULTATIONS SHOULD BE
ESTABLISHED: "IN THEEVENT GREECE BECOMES A FULL
MEMBER TURKEY SHOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO PARTICIPATE
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IN POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS ON AN EQUAL FOOTING SO
THAT THE BALANCE IS NOT UPSET BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES."
INAN ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID THAT TURKEY AND THE EC
SHOULD DISCUSS THE GREEK ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS WITH
TURKEY WHILE THEY ARE IN TRAIN. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL: COMMENT: THE INAN PITCH

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FOR EC-TURKEY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS IS SIMILAR TO
TURKISH AMBASSADOR SARACOGLU'S SUGGESTION TO THE
AMBASSADOR IN DECEMBER THAT ONE WAY TURKEY'S CONCERNS
OVER GREEK ACCESSION MIGHT BE MET WOULD BE BY
INVOLVING TURKEY IN EC POLITICAL COOPERATION ON
" ALL MATTERS WHICH CONCERN EUROPE AS A WHOLE."

3. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: A BRITISH MEMBER OF THE
TURKEY-EEC PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ADDRESSED A DIFFERENT
ASPECT OF EC-TURKISH RELATIONS IN A SPEECH TO THE
PARLIAMENT ON JANUARY 12. IN URGING THAT
THE COMMUNITY TRY TO STANDARDIZE ITS TRADE AGREEMENTS
WITH NON-MEMBER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, HE MAINTAINED THAT
TURKEY'S AGRICULTURAL TRADE WITH THE EC HAS BEEN BADLY
DISADVANTAGED BY THE COMMUNITY'S GLOBAL MEDITERRANEAN
POLICY WHICH HAS RECENTLY GIVEN OTHER MEDITERRANEAN
COUNTRIES GREATER CONCESSIONS THAN THOSE EXTENDED TO
TURKEY UNDER THE EC-TURKEY ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT
AND ITS RELATED PROTOCOLS CONCLUDED PRIOR TO THE
GLOBAL MEDITERRANEAN POLICY. HE ARGUED THAT IN
ANY FUTURE EC-TURKISH TALKS DESIGNED TO IMPROVE
EC-TURKEY RELATIONS, TURKEY SHOULD BE GIVEN
ADDITIONAL COMPENSATING AGRICULTURAL CONCESSIONS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LEGISLATORS, POLICIES, COMMUNITY RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ECBRU00389
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770015-0693
Format: TEL
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770152/aaaabtgw.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 19f604da-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3599586
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROMINENT TURKISH SENATOR CALLS FOR INSTITUTIONALIZED EC-TURKEY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS
TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, TU, XT, GR, EEC, (INAN, KAMRAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/19f604da-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009